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Our preferred method of receiving CAD data is by email, ideally for prototyping the format should be an stl file which most 3D CAD systems can produce.

For tooling and machining jobs an iges or step file would be required.

Most CAD files can be significantly compressed to using zip or rar formats, this often makes it easier to email when there are file attachment size restrictions in place.

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Email: Please forward your files and requirements via our [contact form](#)

FTP:□ Please contact us for access.

By Post:□ CD, DVD, USB Stick.

File Types accepted by CRDM

.igs / .iges
.step / .stp
.stl
.prt (Pro Engineer)
catpart/catproduct Version 5 Catia.exp/.cat/.mod/.mdl/.model Version 4 Catia
.dxf
.dwg

Generating STL files

The **.STL** file format is required for all **Rapid Prototyping** systems. With the ever increasing use of **Rapid Prototyping**, most **CAD** packages now have the ability to export this file type. Below is a brief description of how each **CAD** package can generate an **STL** file.

ProE

- File > Export > Model
- **STL**

- Set chord height to 0. This will be replaced to the minimum applicable chord height.
- OK

SolidWorks

- File > Save
- Set Save As Type to **STL**
- Options > Fine > OK
- OK

SolidEdge

- File > Save As

- Set Save As Type to **STL**
- Save

Unigraphics

- File > Export > **Rapid Prototype**
- Set Output Type to Binary
- Set Triangle Tolerance to 0.0025
- Set Adjacency Tolerance to 0.12
- Set Auto Normal Gen to On
- Set Normal Display to Off
- Set Triangle Display to On

AutoCAD

- Type **STL** OUT at the prompt
- Select Object (must be in positive vector space)
- Binary
- Filename

SolidDesigner

- File > Save
- Set Save As Type to **STL**
- Options > Fine > OK
- Save

I-DEAS

- File > Export > Rapid Prototype File > OK
- Select part
- Select Prototyping Device > SLA500.dat > OK
- Set Absolute facet deviation to 0.000395
- Binary > OK

Mechanical Desktop

- Type AMSLOUT at the prompt
- Aspect Ratio, Surface Tolerance and Vertex Spacing should be set to a reasonable level. If these settings are set to 0, the particular control will be ignored. An appropriate setting will be required to produce a file between 2Mb and 10Mb. If the file size is outside this bound, it may be heavily faceted or excessively high in resolution.

Rhino

- File > Save As
- Select File Type > STL
- Save
- Binary > OK